



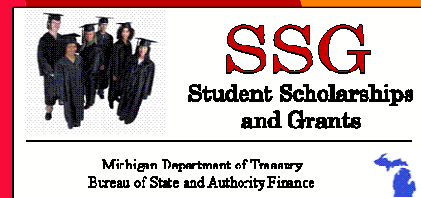
► New name, new Web site,
and Closing Current Year
2011-12.....1

► 2012-13 Current Budget
.....2

► Great News, SSG
Dashboard and Historical
Facts.....3, 4, 5

► Dual Enrollment and SSG
Contact Information.....6, 7

ISSUE 3 | August | 2012



News from SSG

Our Name Has Changed

Many of you know us as the Office of Scholarships and Grants (OSG) which has been our name for many years. We have recently gone through re-organization and our new official name is: **Student Scholarships and Grants (SSG)**, a division of the Bureau of State and Authority Finance, Michigan Department of Treasury. It is a slight change but we have removed the word office and have placed the emphasis on student.

SSG New Web Site

SSG has a new name and a new look. Check out our new Web site at www.michigan.gov/ssg. It was engineered with you in mind to provide:

- Detailed information on state-administered programs for financial aid.
- Historical and funding data.
- Highlights and recent news alerts.
- College planning tips and resources.
- Newsletters, Email blasts, and Annual Reports.
- Inside SSG contacts.
- Online forms, documents, brochures, and so much more. *Be sure to download the updated payment forms which have new deadline dates.*

Students, parents, high school counselors, and

financial aid partners will be able to locate with ease all the information necessary to help students in their quest to obtain postsecondary education.

SSG would like your feedback on our new Web site; please complete the **feedback form** under the "contact us" tab.

Don't forget to bookmark our new Web site! (SSG is in the process of updating our e-mail address.)



Closing the Current Year—2011-12

Institutions **must** balance their Michigan Competitive Scholarship (MCS) and Michigan Tuition Grant (MTG) accounts. The deadline was **July 31, 2012**. Please contact Marion Seelman at seelmanm@michigan.gov if you are having any problems. Payments to colleges that are not balanced will be withheld until the program account has been reconciled.

2012-13 Academic Year

Award Maximums Finalized

MCS maximum - \$ 575
MTG maximum - \$1,512

(These amounts remain the same as in 2011-12)

We are unable to increase the maximum award amount for either program. The qualified number of applicants is somewhat lower than last year, but not enough to project increases in the maximums. Even a \$.00 change can translate into hundreds of thousands of dollars over the appropriation amount.

Because so many edits need to be worked, we have not made awards to avoid penalizing students whose corrections need to be resolved. Prior to making awards we will STOP FAFSA uploads into our system. We will continue to download FAFSAs from the Central Processor and store them. All revisions must come from the institution. You can request that we pick up corrections for changes by contacting Marion at seelmanM@michigan.gov. Notification will be sent via SSG E-mail Blast when this occurs. Remember once awards are made, there is a 30-day window to make corrections. In addition, the State of Michigan does not pay on awards until after October 1 (beginning of our fiscal year) and not until after the first verification deadline.

Attached is the [SSG Payment Schedule](#) for 2012-13 (available on our Web site at www.michigan.gov/ssg). The schedule shows when verification or billing statements for each program are due and when payments are scheduled to occur. ***Please note the dates at year end are moved up for MCS and MTG; they must be balanced by July 31, 2013.***

New Financial Aid Regulations

As a result of recent legislative changes, a number of new requirements for the ***federal student aid programs*** became effective July 1, 2012.

If you enroll in higher education for the first time on or after July 1, 2012, in order to be eligible for federal student aid, you must have either a high school diploma or a recognized equivalent (such as a General Educational Development certificate [GED] or a *homeschool* education).

- You no longer have the option of becoming eligible for federal student aid by passing an approved test or completing at least six credit hours or 225 clock hours of postsecondary education. For more information, see the [basic eligibility requirements](#) for federal student aid.

How does this new regulation affect state-administered programs?

Michigan law does not require a high school diploma. The following State of Michigan programs are available to students with a high school Certificate of Completion:

- Michigan Competitive Scholarship (MCS)
- Michigan Tuition Grant (MTG)
- Tuition Incentive Program (TIP)
- Children of Veterans Tuition Grant (CVTG)
- Police and Fire Fighter's Survivors Tuition Grant (STG)

The federal GEAR UP scholarships that are administered by the state of Michigan do require a diploma. That status must be verified by the GEAR UP coordinators.



GREAT NEWS!

We are pleased to announce that the Student Scholarships and Grants (SSG) division will be stepping up our efforts to reach high school counselors and students. The SSG High School Services (HSS) Unit will be working with Michigan colleges and high schools on the following:

- High School Counselor Workshop (HSCW)
- Postsecondary Handbook
- College Goal Sunday
- Paying for College

More information on [Planning for College](http://www.michigan.gov/ssg) can be found on our Web site—www.michigan.gov/ssg.

The SSG HSS Unit will be coordinated by **Patty Hill**. This is part of our efforts to emphasize to students and parents the various ways to plan for college. Patty has worked for the State of Michigan for over 30 years with the Michigan Guaranty Agency in the Lender and School Services Unit. She later transferred to MDE with the federal College Access College Grant (CACG) to work with college access initiatives. As a member of the Michigan Student Financial Aid Association (MSFAA), Patty has worked extensively with the Extreme Reality financial literacy presentation that was presented in numerous schools throughout the state of Michigan. She also provided state financial aid resources at various college fairs.

Patty is married with three adult children. In her spare time she enjoys gardening, camping, creating pottery, and glass art.

If you have any questions, please contact Patty Hill at hillp@michigan.gov.

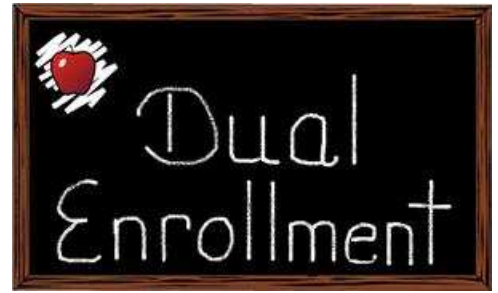


High School Counselor Workshop



Mark Your Calendar!

DUAL ENROLLMENT



The legislature recently passed Public Acts 131-134 which amends both the Postsecondary Enrollment Options program and the Career and Technical Preparation Enrollment Options program. These amendments impact the way that your institution bills and receives payments for these high school students. A simplified summary of the changes follows:

Current

- Both public and private high school students may dual enroll.
- Students attending a private high school must attend at least one class at their local public high school before they can enroll at a postsecondary institution.
- Dual Enrollment is limited to juniors and seniors.
- Postsecondary institutions bill the public school district.
- The public school district pays the institution.
- Any refund is returned to the school district.

Amended

- Private students can go directly to the postsecondary institution and are not required to take a class at the local public high school first.
- Students from grade 9-12 are eligible for dual enrollment up to a maximum of ten (10) credits in four years.
- Postsecondary institution bills separately for public and private high school students.
- Public school districts are billed for students from a public high school.
- The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is billed for the students from a private high school.
- MDE calculates the correct payment amount and sends the information to the Department of Treasury's Student Scholarships and Grants (SSG) division.
- SSG pays the postsecondary institution.
- Any refund is returned to SSG/Treasury.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR YOUR INSTITUTION:

Your billing office/registrar will have to prepare separate billing processes for public school and private school dually enrolled high school students.

MDE is developing the process that institutions will need to follow in order to present a bill from a private high school student for payment. Questions about the billing process should be directed to Daniel Hanrahan at HanrahanD@michigan.gov.

The Department of Treasury was appropriated a total of \$10 million dollars for this purpose. The MDE will send Treasury information on the student's to be paid. Treasury's Student Scholarships and Grants (SSG) division will send each institution a detailed payment roster listing each student and the amount of their payment to the institution.



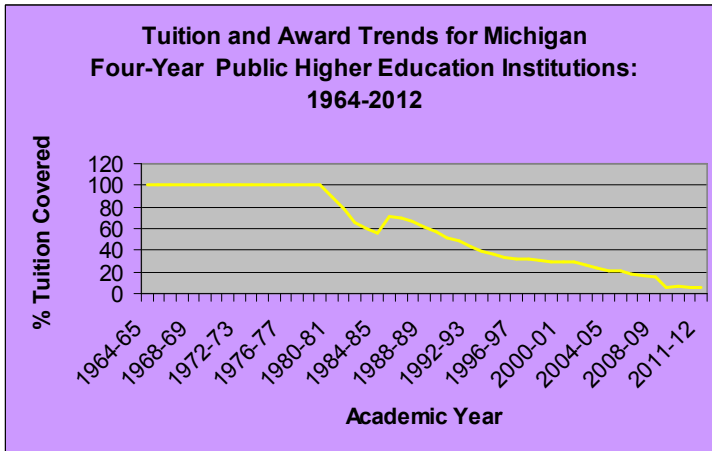
Historical Facts

Did you know that in 1964 the MCS award covered 100% of average tuition and fees costs at a public university?

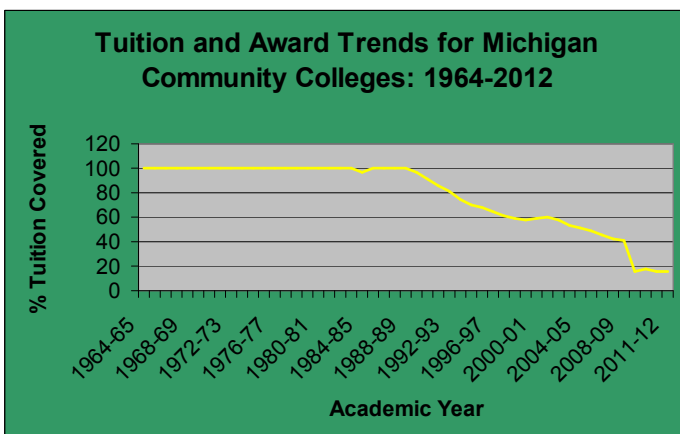
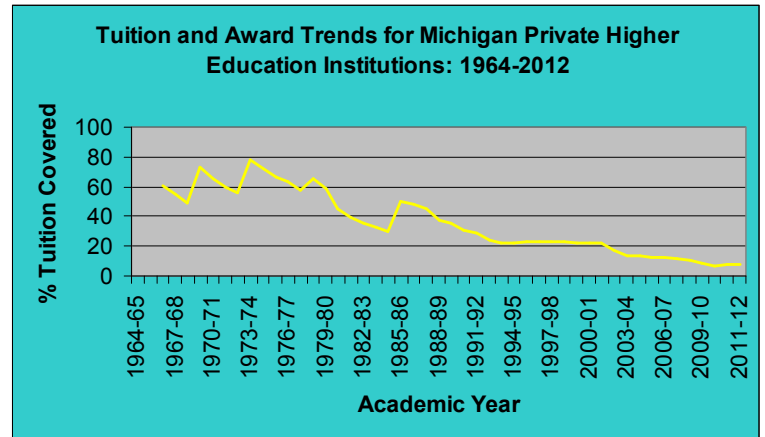
Students attending Michigan public higher education institutions who received the Michigan Competitive Scholarship (MCS) used the award to cover 100% of tuition expenses from 1964 to



1980 and approximately 52% in 1990-91. For the 2011-12 academic year, students used the MCS award to cover approximately 6% of tuition expenses.



Or that in 1966, the MTG covered the average cost of tuition and fees cost at private university. Students attending Michigan private higher education institutions who received the Michigan Tuition Grant (MTG) used the award to cover approximately 60% of tuition expenses in 1966-67 and close to 80% in 1973-74. For the 2011-12 academic year, students used the MTG award to cover approximately 7.5% of tuition expenses.



Students attending Michigan community colleges who received the MCS used the award to cover 100% of tuition expenses from 1964 to 1984 and approximately 51% in 2004-05. For the 2011-12 academic year, students used the MCS award to cover approximately 16% of tuition expenses.



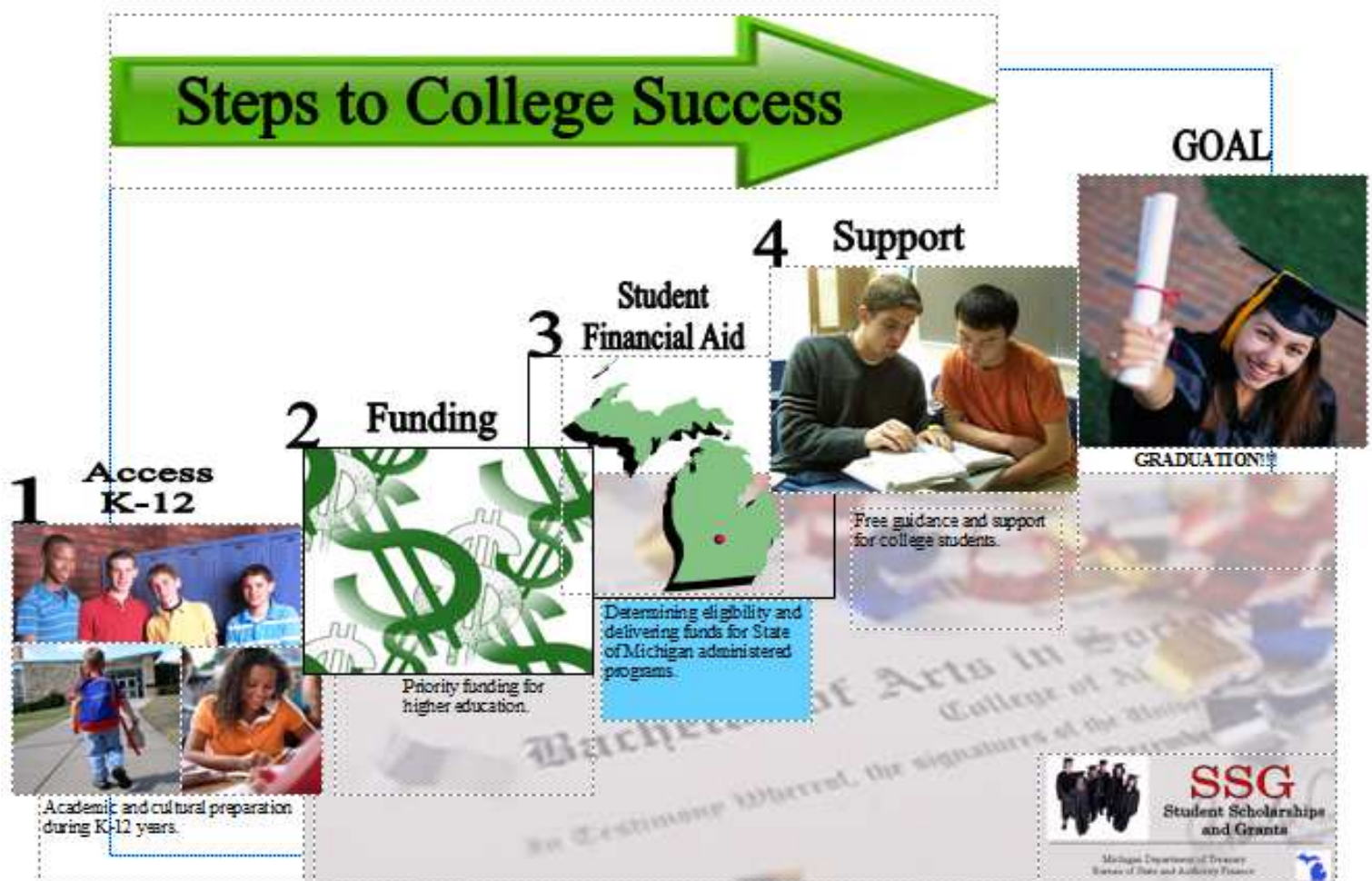
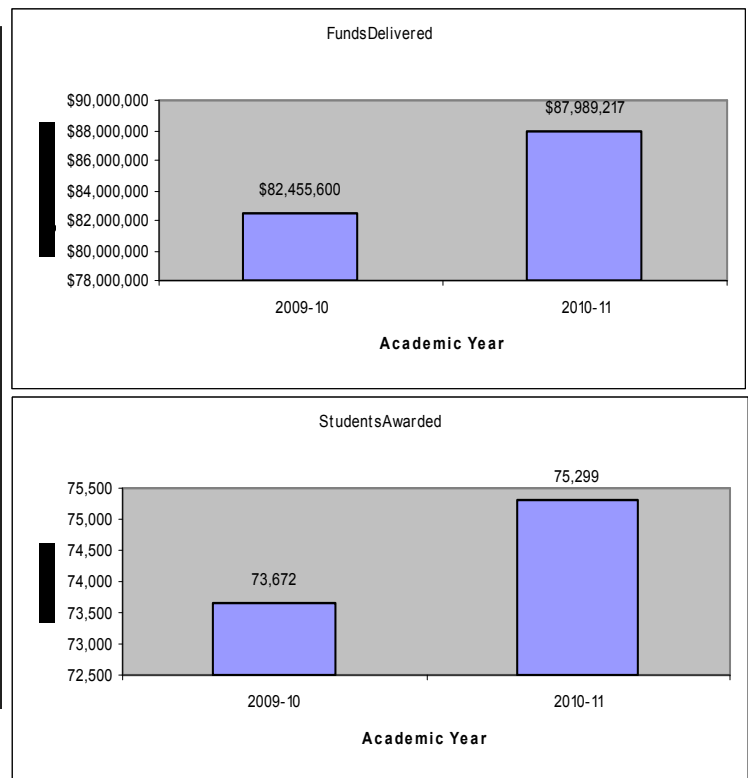
SSG Dashboard

The Michigan College Access Network (MCAN) seeks to increase the number of Michigan college graduates from 38.3% to 60% by 2025. The four elements needed to accomplish this goal are:

SSG determines eligibility and delivers funding for State of Michigan programs.

ACCESS	-	From K-12, families, high schools, and communities need to prepare students with academic preparation and support for postsecondary education.
FUNDING	-	Federal and state governments, higher education institutions, and local communities need to make funding for higher education a priority.
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID	-	SSG ensures that all eligible students receive accurate and timely determination of eligibility for need-based aid. SSG ensures timely delivery of all State of Michigan program funds.
STUDENT SUPPORT	-	Universities and colleges must ensure that students have access to tutoring, counseling, and mentoring programs to help with successful program completion.

SSG supports the MCAN 2025 goal with eligibility determinations and delivery of student aid funds. SSG supports the other three elements with outreach and information support.





SSG Staff Information

If you have specific questions about one of our programs, call us toll-free at 1-888-4-GRANTS (1-888-447-2687) and one of our customer service representatives will assist you. Program coordinators and their numbers are listed below:

GEAR UP	Flora Boles	517-335-2882	Or contact:	
CVTG	Kathy Welch	517-373-7120	Carla Foltyn, Deputy Director	517-335-1790
TIP	Kathy Welch	517-373-7120	Anne Wohlfert, Director	517-373-0458
MCS/MTG	Marion Seelman	517-241-3106		
MNS/TCLI	Nancy Vaughn	517-373-1871		
STG	Carla Foltyn	517-335-1790		
High School Services	Patty Hill	517-373-6051		

SSG: 1-888-447-2687 - Fax: 517-241-5835

Our Name Has Changed
Many of you know us as the Office of Scholarships and Grants (OSG) which has been our name for many years. We have recently gone through re-organization and our new official name is: Student Scholarships and Grants (SSG), a division of the Bureau of State and Authority Finance, Michigan Department of Treasury. It is a slight change but we have moved the word office and have placed the emphasis on student.

SSG New Web Site
SSG has a new name and a new look. Check out our new Web site at www.ssg.michigan.gov. It was engineered with you in mind to provide:

- Detailed information on state-administered programs for financial aid
- Historical and funding data
- Highlights and recent news items
- College planning tips and resources
- Newsletters, Email alerts, and Annual Reports
- Inside SSG contacts
- Online forms, documents, brochures, and so much more. Be sure to download the updated payment forms which have new deadline dates.

 financial aid partners will be able to locate with ease all the information necessary to help students in their quest to obtain postsecondary education.
 SSG would like your feedback on our new Web site, please complete the feedback form under the "contact us" tab.
 Don't forget to bookmark our new Web site! (SSG is in the process of updating our email address.)

Closing the Current Year--2011-12
Institutions must balance their Michigan Competitive Scholarship (MCS) and Michigan Tuition Grant (MTG) accounts. The deadline was July 31, 2012. Please contact Marion Seelman at seelmanm@michigan.gov if you are having any problems. Payments to colleges that are not balanced will be withheld until the program account has been reconciled.

If any other staff members or colleagues would like to receive a copy of our newsletter, please contact:

Stacy Cardwell
cardwells@michigan.gov
 517-373-6074